



Complete Summary

TITLE

Obstetrics: percentage of high risk women undergoing caesarean section who receive appropriate pharmacological thromboprophylaxis.

SOURCE(S)

Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS). ACHS clinical indicator users' manual 2009. ULTIMO NSW: Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS); 2009 Jan. 853 p.

Measure Domain

PRIMARY MEASURE DOMAIN

Process

The validity of measures depends on how they are built. By examining the key building blocks of a measure, you can assess its validity for your purpose. For more information, visit the [Measure Validity](#) page.

SECONDARY MEASURE DOMAIN

Does not apply to this measure

Brief Abstract

DESCRIPTION

This measure is used to assess the percentage of high risk women undergoing caesarean section who receive appropriate pharmacological thromboprophylaxis.

RATIONALE

Thromboembolism is a major cause of maternal morbidity. Pregnancy is a risk factor for venous thromboembolism (VTE) and the risk is higher if birth is by caesarean section, especially emergency caesarean section. A fall in deaths from VTE after caesarean section was observed in the United Kingdom (UK) after introduction of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) guidelines for thromboprophylaxis in 1995.

These guidelines are consensus guidelines as there is a paucity of adequately conducted trials on which to base recommendations.

The rate for this indicator will not be 100% as there will be some women where the clinician does not deem it appropriate.

PRIMARY CLINICAL COMPONENT

Obstetrics; caesarean section; venous thromboembolism (VTE); thromboprophylaxis

DENOMINATOR DESCRIPTION

Total number of high risk women undergoing caesarean section (see the related "Denominator Inclusions/Exclusions" field in the Complete Summary)

NUMERATOR DESCRIPTION

Total number of high risk women undergoing caesarean section who receive appropriate pharmacological thromboprophylaxis (see the related "Numerator Inclusions/Exclusions" field in the Complete Summary)

Evidence Supporting the Measure

EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE CRITERION OF QUALITY

- A clinical practice guideline or other peer-reviewed synthesis of the clinical evidence
- A formal consensus procedure involving experts in relevant clinical, methodological, and organizational sciences

Evidence Supporting Need for the Measure

NEED FOR THE MEASURE

Unspecified

State of Use of the Measure

STATE OF USE

Current routine use

CURRENT USE

Internal quality improvement

Application of Measure in its Current Use

CARE SETTING

Hospitals

PROFESSIONALS RESPONSIBLE FOR HEALTH CARE

Physicians

LOWEST LEVEL OF HEALTH CARE DELIVERY ADDRESSED

Single Health Care Delivery Organizations

TARGET POPULATION AGE

Unspecified

TARGET POPULATION GENDER

Female (only)

STRATIFICATION BY VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Unspecified

Characteristics of the Primary Clinical Component

INCIDENCE/PREVALENCE

Unspecified

ASSOCIATION WITH VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Unspecified

BURDEN OF ILLNESS

See the "Rationale" field.

UTILIZATION

Unspecified

COSTS

Unspecified

Institute of Medicine National Healthcare Quality Report Categories

IOM CARE NEED

Staying Healthy

IOM DOMAIN

Effectiveness

Data Collection for the Measure

CASE FINDING

Users of care only

DESCRIPTION OF CASE FINDING

High risk women undergoing caesarean section

DENOMINATOR SAMPLING FRAME

Patients associated with provider

DENOMINATOR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS

Inclusions

Total number of high risk women* undergoing caesarean section

**Women at high risk* are defined as patients with three or more of the following moderate venous thromboembolism (VTE) risk factors:

- Age greater than 35 years
- Initial weight greater than 80 kg
- Para 4 or more
- Gross varicose veins
- Current infection
- Preeclampsia
- Immobility prior to surgery (greater than 4 days)
- Emergency caesarean section in labour
- Major current illness (heart or lung disease, cancer, inflammatory bowel, nephritic syndrome, recent surgery in pregnancy)

Or one of the following high VTE risk factors:

- Extended major pelvic or abdominal surgery (caesarean hysterectomy)
- Family or personal history of deep vein thrombosis (DVT); pulmonary embolism (PE) or thrombophilia (including Antiphospholipid syndrome); paralysis of lower limbs

Refer to the original measure documentation for specific International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Australian Modification (ICD-10-AM) codes.

Exclusions

Unspecified

RELATIONSHIP OF DENOMINATOR TO NUMERATOR

All cases in the denominator are equally eligible to appear in the numerator

DENOMINATOR (INDEX) EVENT

Clinical Condition
Institutionalization
Therapeutic Intervention

DENOMINATOR TIME WINDOW

Time window is a single point in time

NUMERATOR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS

Inclusions

Total number of high risk women undergoing caesarean section who receive appropriate pharmacological thromboprophylaxis*

**Appropriate pharmacologic thromboprophylaxis* means prophylaxis that is concordant with the recommendations in locally agreed guidelines which have been endorsed by the Drugs & Therapeutics Committee or other appropriate committee.

Exclusions

Unspecified

MEASURE RESULTS UNDER CONTROL OF HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS, ORGANIZATIONS AND/OR POLICYMAKERS

The measure results are somewhat or substantially under the control of the health care professionals, organizations and/or policymakers to whom the measure applies.

NUMERATOR TIME WINDOW

Episode of care

DATA SOURCE

Administrative data
Medical record

LEVEL OF DETERMINATION OF QUALITY

Individual Case

PRE-EXISTING INSTRUMENT USED

Unspecified

Computation of the Measure

SCORING

Rate

INTERPRETATION OF SCORE

Better quality is associated with a higher score

ALLOWANCE FOR PATIENT FACTORS

Unspecified

STANDARD OF COMPARISON

External comparison at a point in time
External comparison of time trends
Internal time comparison

Evaluation of Measure Properties

EXTENT OF MEASURE TESTING

Unspecified

Identifying Information

ORIGINAL TITLE

Indicator area 6: pharmacological thromboprophylaxis & caesarean section CI 6.1.

MEASURE COLLECTION

[Australian Council on Healthcare Standards \(ACHS\) Equip Clinical Indicators](#)

MEASURE SET NAME

[Obstetrics Indicators](#)

DEVELOPER

Australian Council on Healthcare Standards

FUNDING SOURCE(S)

Funding is direct Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS) funding sourced through our membership. ACHS does not receive external funding from the government or other sources.

COMPOSITION OF THE GROUP THAT DEVELOPED THE MEASURE

Our terms of reference dictate the composition of the working parties that develop our indicators and include the following:

- Two Clinicians -- nominated by the relevant specialty college/association/society, one nominated to be the chair of the working party
- Private Hospital Representative -- nominated by the Australian Private Hospital Association
- Consumer Representative -- nominated by the Consumer Health Forum of Australia
- Coding Representative -- nominated by the National Centre for Clinical classification on Health
- Quality Health New Zealand, nominated by QH NZ (if applicable)
- Epidemiological/Clinical Research Representative, Director of Health Services Research Group, University of Newcastle
- Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS) Representatives -- Clinical Director, Coordinator, Administrative Assistant
- Other Expert Stakeholders, as required

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES/OTHER POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None

ADAPTATION

Measure was not adapted from another source.

RELEASE DATE

1995 Jan

REVISION DATE

2009 Jan

MEASURE STATUS

This is the current release of the measure.

This measure updates a previous version: Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS). ACHS clinical indicator users' manual 2008. ULTIMO NSW: Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS); 2007 Dec. 776 p.

SOURCE(S)

Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS). ACHS clinical indicator users' manual 2009. ULTIMO NSW: Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS); 2009 Jan. 853 p.

MEASURE AVAILABILITY

The individual measure, "Indicator Area 6: Pharmacological Thromboprophylaxis & Caesarean Section CI 6.1," is published in "ACHS Clinical Indicator Users' Manual 2009."

For more information contact, the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS), 5 Macarthur Street, ULTIMO NSW 2007; Phone: (02) 9281 9955; Fax: (02) 9211 9633; E-mail: pos@achs.org.au; Web site: www.achs.org.au.

COMPANION DOCUMENTS

The following is available:

- Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS). Australasian clinical indicator report 2001-2007. Determining the potential to improve quality of care: 9th edition. ULTIMO NSW: Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS); 2008. 611 p. This document is available in Portable Document Format (PDF) from the [Australian Council on Healthcare Standards \(ACHS\) Web site](http://www.achs.org.au).

NQMC STATUS

This NQMC summary was completed by ECRI Institute on October 21, 2008. This NQMC summary was updated by ECRI Institute on June 30, 2009.

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